

PID/ABCB 120-63  
29 May 1963  
Copy # 3

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Atomic/Biological/Chemical Division, OSI

ATTENTION: [REDACTED]

FROM: Chief, CIA/PID(NPIC)

Declass Review  
by NGA.

SUBJECT: Search for AE Activity Possibly to Atomic  
Test Preparations, Ala Shan Desert

REFERENCES: Requirement No. OSI/90/63  
CIA Project No. C 349-63

1. A search was made of the area north and east of the Trans-Sinkiang Railroad from longitude 95° to the eastern edge of the Ala Shan Desert for evidence of activity possibly related to atomic test site preparations. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] which are of good quality and cover most of the area were used in the search.

2. There is no evidence of the presence of an atomic test site nor is there any evidence that a test site is under construction in the area. However, an unusual amount of activity is evident primarily east of the O-chi-na Ho River. This activity is apparently associated with probable rim prospecting along certain outcrops on the floor of the desert that could contain sought after minerals. Workers camp sites are scattered throughout the area.

3. Near the Shuang-Ch'eng-Tzu Missile Center, activity that could possibly be related to the operation of the missile center is evident. At a point approximately nine nautical miles (nm) directly north of launch complex "C" a circular ground scar of about 2000 feet in diameter is evident. A road from the missile center leads to the middle of this circular scar where some construction activity appears to be in progress.

4. As requested, the following is a list of areas where gaps exist and only insufficient current photo coverage is available:

a. A triangular area formed by north latitude 38° on the northern side, the Lan-Chou-Wu Wei Railroad on the western side and the Lan-Chou-Chung Wei Railroad on the eastern side.

TOP SECRET [REDACTED]

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

**TOP SECRET**

25X1

Page 2

b. The western edge of the Ala Shan Desert between east longitudes 95° and 97°.

5. The photo analyst on this project is [REDACTED]. He may be contacted on extension [REDACTED] should you have further questions regarding this project.

25X1

25X1

6. This memorandum completes the referenced requirement and the project is considered complete.

25X1

**TOP SECRET**

25X1